United Nations A/RES/60/223

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 March 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 66 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.45 and Add.1)*]

60/223. Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[1] and its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998, 54/234 of 22 December 1999, 55/217 of 21 December 2000, 56/37 of 4 December 2001, 57/296 of 20 December 2002, 57/337 of 3 July 2003, 58/235 of 23 December 2003 and 59/255 of 23 December 2004, as well as resolution 59/213 of 20 December 2004 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union,

Recalling also, in this context, Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, 1366 (2001) of 30 August 2001 on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts, and 1625 (2005) of 14 September 2005 on strengthening the effectiveness of the Council's role in conflict prevention, especially in Africa,

Recalling further the creation by the Economic and Social Council, by its resolution 2002/1 of 15 July 2002, of ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General[2] on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[3]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[4] through which world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa,

---

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/56/45).

[2] A/60/182.

[3] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[4] See resolution 60/1.

Recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Noting that conflict prevention and the consolidation of peace would benefit from the coordinated, sustained and integrated efforts of the United Nations system and Member States, and regional and subregional organizations, as well as international and regional financial institutions,

Reaffirming that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa must remain a priority in the agenda of the United Nations system and for Member States,

Stressing that the responsibility for peace and security in Africa, including the capacity to address the root causes of conflict and to resolve conflicts in a peaceful manner, lies primarily with African countries, while recognizing the need for support from the international community,

Underlining the need to address the negative implications of the illegal exploitation of natural resources in all its aspects on peace, security and development in Africa, noting, in this context, the relevant recommendations contained in the progress report of the Secretary-General,

Underscoring the need to further strengthen political will so as to ensure the financial and technical support required for the effective implementation of the recommendations included in the reports of the Secretary-General,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen the synergies between Africa's economic and social development programmes and its peace and security agenda,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[1] including recent efforts in peacemaking and peacekeeping operations and the need for special attention to post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding;

2. *Welcomes* the continuing progress in the reduction of major conflicts on the continent and the sustained efforts in recent times by the African Union, as well as by African regional and subregional organizations, to mediate and resolve conflicts, and notes that despite the positive trends and advances in Africa, the conditions required for sustained peace and development have yet to be consolidated throughout the continent;

3. *Notes with concern* the continuation on the continent of many situations characterized by various forms of civil strife, including those caused by ethnic, religious and economic factors, and the role of illegal exploitation of natural resources in fuelling conflicts in Africa;

4. *Supports* Africa's goal of achieving a conflict-free Africa by 2010;

5. *Welcomes* the commitments in the areas of peace and stability made by the Group of Eight countries in the context of the Gleneagles communiqué adopted at their annual summit, held at Gleneagles, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, from 6 to 8 July 2005, and looks forward to the early implementation of these commitments;

6. *Also welcomes* the determination of the African Union to strengthen its peacekeeping capacity and to take the lead in peacekeeping in the continent, in

accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and in close coordination with the United Nations, through the Peace and Security Council, as well as ongoing efforts to develop a continental early warning system, enhanced mediation capacity, including through the establishment of the Panel of the Wise, and an African standby force;

7. *Urges* African countries, the United Nations system and the international community to increase, coordinate and sustain their efforts aimed at addressing the full range of causes of conflict in Africa by strengthening conflict prevention and resolution and post-conflict peacebuilding measures and activities, including the strengthening of African peacekeeping capacity;

8. *Urges* the United Nations and other relevant partners to support the establishment of the African Union continental early warning system as a matter of priority;

9. *Urges* the United Nations and invites other development partners to increase their support for the African Union in order to enhance its capacity and effectiveness in the planning, deployment and management of peacekeeping operations and the provision of advanced training to African peacekeepers, recognizes the important role of the good offices of the Secretary-General in Africa, and encourages the Secretary-General to use mediation as often as possible to help to solve conflicts peacefully, taking due consideration of the work performed by the African Union and other subregional organizations in that regard;

10. *Welcomes* the use of the African Peace Facility of the European Union, and initiatives by members of the Group of Eight to build African peacekeeping capacity, such as the Global Peace Operations Initiative of the United States of America and the Reinforcement of African Peacekeeping Capacities programme of France, as well as efforts by other international partners to support the implementation of peace initiatives undertaken by the African Union and African subregional organizations;

11. *Also welcomes* the decision taken in the 2005 World Summit Outcome[5] to establish a Peacebuilding Commission as an intergovernmental advisory body to address the special needs of countries emerging from conflict towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction and to assist them in laying the foundation for sustainable development, and notes that the Commission should begin its work no later than 31 December 2005;

12. *Invites* the Commission of the African Union, the secretariat of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the United Nations Secretariat to coordinate their actions with a view to implementing an African-led agenda, deriving from the strategic policy framework for post-conflict reconstruction being developed by the African Union to tackle post-conflict peacebuilding and reconstruction, addressing the linkages among security, development and humanitarian dimensions of peace in Africa;

13. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and invites Member States to assist African countries emerging from conflict in their efforts to restore security, provide for the safe return of internally displaced persons and refugees, promote and monitor human rights and increase income-generating activities, especially for youth and demobilized ex-combatants;

[5] See resolution 60/1, para. 97.

14. *Stresses* the critical importance of a regional approach to conflict prevention, particularly regarding cross-border issues such as disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, prevention of illegal exploitation and trafficking of natural resources and high-value commodities, and emphasizes the potential role of the African Union and subregional organizations in addressing the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

15. *Notes with concern* the tragic plight of children in conflict situations in Africa, particularly the growing phenomenon of child soldiers, and reiterates the need for post-conflict counselling, rehabilitation and education;

16. *Also notes with concern* that violence against women continues and often increases, even as armed conflicts draw to an end, and urges further progress in the implementation of policies and guidelines relating to protection of and assistance for women in conflict and post-conflict situations;

17. *Calls for* the enhancement of the role of women in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and post-conflict peacebuilding and for expanding gender mainstreaming in the work of United Nations organizations involved in peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction;

18. *Decides* to continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;

19. *Stresses* the importance of enabling the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa to better fulfil its role as the focal point within the Secretariat for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 18 above;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution.

69th plenary meeting
23 December 2005